

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 GUATEM 01992 042304Z  
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 CPR-01 PA-01 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00  
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 SSC-01 ISO-00 /033 W  
-----111433 042309Z /21

O 042242Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9796

C O N F I D E N T I A L GUATEMALA 1992

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PPDC, GT, PINT  
SUBJ: CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT-ELECT LUCAS

REF: STATE 086116

1. WE SUGGEST THAT IT MIGHT BE PREFERABLE TO DELAY DELIVERY  
OF CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO GENERAL LUCAS PENDING OUTCOME  
OF STRING OF LEGAL APPEALS FILED BY MLN TO VOID THE  
PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

2. ON MARCH 31 COURT REJECTED MLN'S AMPARA (INJUNCTION) SUIT  
ON PROCEDURAL GROUNDS. HOWEVER, MLN HAS GIVEN NOTICE IT WILL  
SOON FILE A "RECURSO DE CONSTITUCIONALIDAD" (CHALLENGE ON  
CONSTITUTIONAL GROUNDS). PARTY HAS DECLARED THIS WOULD BE  
"LAST RESORT" TO OVERTURN THE ELECTION RESULT IN THE COURTS.

3. ALTHOUGH FURTHER APPEAL HAS NO BETTER CHANCE OF PROSPERING  
THAN THE PRECEDING ONES, WE ARE INCLINED TO VIEW PROPRIETIES  
AND POLITICS OF THE SITUATION AS COUNSELING US TO REFRAIN FROM  
APPEARING TO INSERT OURSELVES AT THIS JUNCTURE. WHENEVER IT  
IS DELIVERED, LUCAS CAMP CAN BE EXPECTED TO SEIZE UPON PRESI-  
DENT CARTER'S MESSAGE TO REINFORCE "LEGITIMACY" OF LUCAS  
TRIUMPH. IT WOULD BE UNFORTUNATE IF PUBLICATION OF PREDI-  
DENT'S MESSAGE WERE TO COINCIDE, FOR INSTANCE, WITH  
ANNOUNCEMENT THAT GUATEMALAN SUPREME COURT WAS ENTERTAINING A  
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FURTHER LEGAL CHALLENGE BY THE MLN. WE NOTE THAT TO DATE THE  
CONGRATULATIONS OF NO OTHER GOVERNMENTS HAVE RECEIVED  
PUBLICITY, ALTHOUGH DOUBTLESS THERE HAVE BEEN SOME. WE OUR-  
SELVES HAVE PUT OFF HIGH-LEVEL CONTACT WITH THE NEW LEADERSHIP  
UNTIL THERE IS GREATER CERTAINTY THAT LEGAL PROCEDURES HAVE  
RUN THEIR COURSE.

4. IF, AFTER A WEEK OR SO, MLN HAS NOT FILED ITS "FINAL"  
APPEAL, WE WOULD SUGGEST TAKING ANOTHER LOOK AT POSTPONEMENT,  
RECOGNIZING THAT INDEFINITE DELAY WOULD NOT BE IN OUR BEST  
INTEREST.

5. REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS.  
BOSTER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, ELECTION RESULTS, CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES, PRESIDENT ELECT, COURT PROCEEDINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978GUATEM01992  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780145-1160  
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**Line Count:** 69  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 43b709b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 STATE 86116  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 12 jul 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3085049  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT-ELECT LUCAS  
**TAGS:** PPDC, PINT, GT, US, (LUCAS, ROMEO)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014